

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

**Listing of claims:**

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A data communication system comprising:

a main station;

plural substations, each of which is connected to said main station by a common transmission line;

a data transmitter which transmits data address to all of said plural substations, provided in said main station;

plural data receivers which receive said data, provided in said plural substations respectively;

a message transmitter which transmits a query message addressed to all of said plural substations after said data are transmitted, to inquire whether reception was normal, provided in said main station; and

plural response transmitters which transmit a carrier as a response message to said query message, only when said data could not be received normally, provided in said plural substations respectively;

wherein, whenever said main station receives a certain signal wave after transmitting said query message, said main station judges the signal wave said carrier transmitted from one or more of said plural substations and retransmits said data ~~address~~addressed to all of said plural substations and wherein when said main station detects no signal during a certain time period, the main station transmits the next transmission data.

Claim 2 (Previously presented): The data communication system, according to Claim 1, wherein said main station receives said carrier within a prescribed period of time after the transmission of said query message.

Claim 3 (Original): The data communication system, according to Claim 2, wherein said prescribed period of time is the period until the time to start the next transmission of said data.

Claim 4 (Previously Presented): The data communication system, according to Claim 2, wherein said main station determines that all of said plural substations were able to receive said data normally, when said main station does not receive said carrier within said prescribed period of time.

Claim 5 (Previously presented): The data communication system, according to Claim 4, wherein said main station effects the next data transmission when said carrier is not received within said prescribed period of time.

Claim 6 (Previously Presented): The data communication system, according to Claim 2, wherein said main station determines that any of said plural substations was unable to receive said data normally, when said main station receives said carrier within said prescribed of time.

Claim 7 (Previously presented): The data communication system, according to Claim 6, wherein said main station re-transmits said data when said carrier is received within said prescribed period of time.

Claim 8 (Previously presented): The data communication system, according to Claim 7, wherein said main station terminates the transmission of said data and effects the transmission of next data when said carrier is received after the same data have been transmitted a prescribed number of times.

Claim 9 (Previously presented): The data communication system, according to Claim 8, wherein said main station changes said prescribed number of times.

Claim 10 (Previously presented): The data communication system, according to Claim 1, wherein said plural substations, when said normally received data are received once more, delete said data.

Claim 11 (Previously presented): The data communication system, according to Claim 1, wherein said plural substations, when said data that could not be normally received are received once more, store said data.

Claim 12 (Canceled).

Claim 13 (Canceled).